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Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim 32, which uses a system comprising a computer connected to a network and a plurality of terminal devices connected to said network, wherein

when said computer sends a command into said network for operating or stopping an operation of said terminal device, said computer sends out said command with an automatically assigned node number while sequentially changing the automatically assigned node number to a number other than the node number of said computer,

a terminal device in said network receives said command and, in response, starts operating or stops the operation,

said computer monitors said operating or said stopping of the operation-is monitored, and recognizes a correspondence between the node number sent out together with said command and a timing of the terminal device-said operating or said stopping-of the operation based on the timing of the command thus sent out-is recognized, and

by performing said monitoring and said recognizing for each sequentially changed automatically assigned node number, the a correspondence between a plurality of node numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired from said recognition.

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

34. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim ~~32~~33, ~~wherein~~further comprising the step of:

~~said operating or said stopping of the operation is monitored,~~

~~correspondence between the node number sent out together with said command and a timing of said operating or said stopping of the operation based on the timing of the command thus sent out is recognized, and~~

the terminal device corresponding to a desired node number is sought from said recognition.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to any one of claims ~~32 to 34~~ 33, wherein

said terminal device includes an illuminating means, and

said operating or said stopping of the operation, respectively, ~~means is~~ turning on or turning off said illuminating means.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim ~~32~~33, wherein

said command is for said terminal device to supply said computer with identifying information with which said terminal device can be identified uniquely,

~~correspondence between a timing of the command for supplying said identifying information and the node number of said command sent out at said timing is recognized, and~~

~~the correspondence between a plurality of node numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired from said recognition.~~

37. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim ~~32~~33, wherein

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

said command is for said terminal device to supply said computer with identifying information with which said terminal device can be identified uniquely;

~~correspondence between a timing of the command for supplying said identifying information and the node number of said command sent out at said timing is recognized, and~~

~~the terminal device corresponding to a desired node number is located based on said recognition.~~

38. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim 36, wherein

~~when said network is first reset, and when said network is first reset~~ said computer creates a list carrying said identifying information or a name designating said terminal device in corresponding relationship to said automatically assigned node number ~~on the basis of~~ based on said identifying information received from said terminal device, and each time said network is reset thereafter, said computer updates said list, and the correspondence between said plurality of node numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired by referencing said list.

39. (Original) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to claim 38, wherein said identifying information is a node unique ID.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device ~~according to claim 40, which uses a system comprising a computer connected to a network and a plurality of terminal devices connected to said network,~~ wherein

when said computer sends data into said network to be played back on said terminal device, said computer sends out said data with an automatically assigned node number while sequentially changing the automatically assigned node number to another number other than a node number of said computer,

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

~~said computer monitors said playback is monitored, and recognizes a~~
correspondence between the node number sent out together with said data and a
timing for the terminal device playing back said data ~~is recognized, and~~

~~by performing said monitoring and said recognizing for each sequentially~~
~~changed automatically assigned node number, the~~ correspondence between said
plurality of node numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired from the
each result of said recognition.

42. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between
a node and a terminal device according to claim 4041, ~~wherein further comprising~~
the step of:

~~said playback is monitored,~~

~~correspondence between the node number sent out together with said data~~
~~and a timing for playing back said data is recognized, and~~

the terminal device corresponding to a desired node number is sought from
said recognition.

43. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between
a node and a terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 40 to 42~~41, wherein a
channel used by said data is assigned in such a manner as to be able to uniquely
identify said node number.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between
a node and a terminal device according to claim 36 ~~or 37~~, wherein said identifying
information is a numeric value.

45. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between
a node and a terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 32 to 34~~, wherein
said terminal device includes a display means, and

said command is for displaying the desired node number ~~of corresponding to~~
said terminal device on said display means.

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

46. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 32-34, 36-4233~~, wherein said terminal device is a home VCR.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 32-34, 36-4233~~, wherein each of said plurality of node numbers is a device number.

48. (Currently Amended) A method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 32-34, 36-4233~~, wherein said network is an IEEE 1394 bus.

49. (Currently Amended) A program recording medium having a program recorded thereon for enabling a computer to implement all or part of the functions of the method of acquiring correspondence between a node and a terminal device described in ~~any one of claims 32-34, 36-4233~~.

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A computer ~~according to claim 50 which uses a system comprising a computer connected to a network and a plurality of terminal devices connected to the network, wherein~~ said computer comprising:

input means of inputting one of an automatically assigned node number and a device number, other than a node number of said computer, to a terminal device having (1) a second interface which receives a command sent out from said computer via said network and (2) control means for performing control so as to execute said command received via said second interface; and

a first interface which sends out into said network a command for operating or stopping an operation of said terminal device, while sequentially changing said one of said node number and said device number input by said input means, wherein

said command, along with said one of said node number and said device number, is sent to said terminal device via said network,

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

~~said computer monitors said~~ operating or said stopping of the operation ~~is monitored, and recognizes a correspondence~~ between said one of the node number and the device number sent out together with said command and a timing of said ~~terminal device driving operating or said stopping of the driving operation~~ based on the timing of the command thus sent out ~~is recognized~~, and

~~by performing said monitoring and said recognizing for each sequentially changed one of said node number and said device number, thea~~ correspondence between a plurality of node numbers or device numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired from said recognition.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer which uses a system comprising said computer connected to a network and a plurality of terminal devices connected to said network, said computer comprising:

a first interface which, when said network is reset, sends out a command for requesting a node unique ID to said terminal devices into said network, while sequentially changing one of a node number and a device number as a destination ID or by appending to said command a description as a destination ID indicating delivery to all connected devices, and said terminal device comprising (1) a second interface which receives said command sent out from said computer via said network, (2) control means for performing control so as to execute said command received via said second interface, and (3) a second memory which is referenced by said second interface and which stores said node unique ID unique to said device to be transmitted to said computer;

a first memory for storing a list carrying said node unique ID or a name designating said terminal device in corresponding relationship to said node number; and

converting means for creating said list and storing the same in said first memory at the time of the first reset, and for updating said list for each reset thereafter, and wherein:

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

when said first interface sends the command for requesting said node unique ID into said network,

said second interface returns said node unique ID to said first interface via said network in response to said command,

said first interface receives said node unique ID sent out from said second interface via said network,

said converting means creates or updates said list by using said node unique ID received from said each terminal device, and

correspondence between each node and each terminal device is obtained by referencing said list.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) A computer according to ~~any one of claims 51 to 52~~, wherein said network is an IEEE 1394 bus.

55. (Currently Amended) A program recording medium having a program recorded thereon for enabling a computer to implement all or part of the functions of the computer described in ~~any one of claims 50 to 52~~ 51.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Currently Amended) A terminal device ~~according to claim 56 which uses a system comprising a computer connected to a network and a plurality of terminal devices connected to the network, wherein said terminal device comprising:~~

a second interface which receives a command sent out via said network from said computer having (1) input means for inputting an automatically assigned node number other than a node number of said computer and (2) a first interface which sends out into said network a command for operating or stopping an operation of said terminal device, while sequentially changing said node number input by said input means; and

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

a control means for performing control so as to execute said command received via said second interface, wherein

said command with said node number is sent to said terminal device via said network,

said computer monitors said operating or said stopping of the operation is monitored, and recognizes a correspondence between the node number sent out together with said command and a timing of said control means operating or said stopping of the operation based on the timing of the command thus sent out is recognized, and

by performing said monitoring and said recognizing for each sequentially changed node number, thea correspondence between a plurality of node numbers and said plurality of terminal devices is acquired from said recognition.

58. (Currently Amended) A terminal apparatus according to claim 56 ~~or~~ 57, further comprising illuminating means, ~~and~~ wherein

said operating or said stopping of the operation, respectively, turns on or turns off said illuminating means.

59. (Previously Presented) A terminal device which uses a system comprising a computer connected to a network and a plurality of said terminal devices connected to said network, said terminal device comprising:

a second interface which, when said network is reset, receives a command sent out via said network from said computer having (1) a first interface which sends out into said network a command for requesting a node unique ID to said terminal device, while sequentially changing a node number as a destination ID or by appending to said command a description as a destination ID indicating delivery to all connected devices, (2) a first memory for storing a list carrying said node unique ID or a name designating said terminal device in corresponding relationship to said node number, and (3) converting means for creating said list and storing the same in said first memory at the time of a first reset, and for updating said list for each reset thereafter;

Application No.: 09/744,885
Amendment Dated: March 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: November 14, 2006

MTS-3234US

control means for performing control so as to execute said command received via said second interface; and

a second memory which is referenced by said second interface and which stores its own node unique ID to be transmitted to said computer, and wherein:

when said first interface sends the command for requesting said node unique ID into said network,

said second interface returns said node unique ID to said first interface via said network in response to said command,

said first interface receives said node unique ID sent out from said second interface via said network,

said converting means creates or updates said list by using said node unique ID received from each terminal device, and

correspondence between said each node and said each terminal device is obtained by referencing said list.

60-62 (Cancelled)

63. (Currently Amended) A terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 56, 57, 59-61~~, wherein said terminal device is a home VCR.

64. (Currently Amended) A terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 56, 57, 59-61~~, wherein each of said plurality of node numbers is a device number is used instead of said node number.

65. (Currently Amended) A terminal device according to ~~any one of claims 56, 57, 59-61~~, wherein said network is an IEEE 1394 bus.

66. (Currently Amended) A program recording medium having a program recorded thereon for enabling a computer to implement all or part of the functions of the terminal device described in ~~any one of claims 56, 57, 59-61~~.

67. (Cancelled)